



In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Application Number: 09/629,749

Appn. Filed: 07/31/00

Applicant: Durham Russell Maples, Camden, SC;

Appn. Title: A Method for Enhancing the Equity of a Business Entity

Art Unit: 2161

Examiner/GAU: Pierre Eddy Elisca

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Amendment D

1. This is in response to the action mailed on March 6, 2002 .

Remarks

2. The claims were rejected by the Examiner for two reasons.

Reason 1. The claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 second paragraph because a **single** claim which claims both an apparatus and the method steps of using the apparatus is indefinite.

Reason 2. The claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 based on the **theory** that the claim is directed to neither a "process" nor a "machine", but rather embraces or overlaps two different statutory classes of invention set forth in 35 U.S.C. 101 which is drafted so as to set forth the statutory classes of invention in the alternative only.

A copy of the pages that outline the explanation by the Examiner sent in the last detailed action is enclosed. The claims were rejected for the same reason but applied to two different statutes.

3. The Applicant has amended the claims as the Examiner has advised by removing "means for" from the claims. The claims have been amended so that none of the claims have an apparatus claimed. All the claims are process claims.